The A. F. of L. Weekly News Letter contains a brief summary of important matters affecting labor, occurring in the industrial, legislative, and judicial fields, and such other information that will benefit the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR
WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

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AGITATE!
EDUCATE!
ORGANIZE!

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REJECT WAR BOARD'S OFFER TO ARBITRATE

New York, June 8.—The controversy arising between the officials of the Western Union Telegraph company and the representatives of the Commercial Telegraphers' union over the discharge of its members by the company because they joined the union, has been finally disposed of by the national war labor board, to which President S. J. Konenkamp of the Commercial Telegraphers' union, referred it, hoping thereby to avert a threatened strike that might have involved a large number of the telegraph operators of the entire country. In agreeing to accept the findings of the board he pledged himself to use every possible influence to induce the members of the union to fully comply with it, in order to prevent the development of any serious interferences with telegraphic communication or in any way hamper the government in the transportation of troops or the shipping of war supplies.

The Western Union Telegraph company, when approached on the proposition to submit the dispute to arbitration, refused to give its assent or agree to be in any way bound by any finding of the board after a full hearing on the disputed points at issue. It did, however, offer its objections to its employes becoming members of the union, and was persistent in refusing to reinstate those who had been dismissed for their union activities, a policy the company has relentlessly pursued for years past.

The labor war board, through Frank P. Walsh and William H. Taft, who represent the public, called a special executive session in this city for the purpose of arriving at a decision on the disputed points, despite the fact that the Western Union Telegraph company had flatly and positively refused to submit its side of the dispute for the consideration of the board.

When the board urged Newcomb Carlton and Chairman Wiggins of the executive board of the directors of the company to be represented at the board's hearing and make a defense, they refused to recognize its jurisdiction. Finding that the company was unwilling to render any assistance that might lead to an amicable adjustment, a report was made to the full board with a recommendation that a vote be taken on the approval or disapproval of the proposition submitted to the company.

It being clearly proven that the company would make no concessions whatever that might lead up to an adjustment, the board's joint chairmen submitted a recommendation disapproving the policy of the company and asked the board to approve their action. That was done.

The five representatives of labor and the two representing the public voted to sustain the contention of the telegraphers for the reinstatement of men who had been discharged. The representatives of the employers voted to support the action of the company in declining the recognize the board's jurisdiction in the controversy.

President Konenkamp stated that the refusal of the employers on the board to agree to a decision based on the principles laid down for the guidance of the national labor war board, and the refusal of the president of the company to abide by the decision rendered by the board, may result in a strike of the employes of the company to enforce the decision rendered.

TO EDUCATE ILLITERATE.

New York, June 8.—Commissioner of Education John H. Finley has circulated a notice among those interested in the Americanization movement that the New York state legislature has recently passed a bill requiring a certain educational standard to be attained in this state. Gratification over these steps has been expressed by the United States bureau of education through Dr. P. P. Claxton, commissioner, and other representative men who are making telling efforts to have the scope of this movement further enlarged.

The act provides in part for:

Opening of day and evening and factory classes to acquire the English langauge.

Compulsory attendance of illiterate minors, from 16 to 21, until they have "such ability to speak, read and write the English language as is required for the completion of the fifth grade of the public schools of the city or school district in which he resides."

ADVANCE OF $1.25 PER DAY.

Denver, Colo., June 8.—Beginning June 1 the wages of the iron and brass molders in Colorado will be $6 per day of eight hours, with price and a half for overtime. This is an increase of $1.25 over the rate which has prevailed during the past year. It affects 350 molders and coremakers in the iron foundries and brass shops of Denver, Pueblo and Colorado Springs.

Cleveland, Ohio, June 8.—The shipping board in making its award in the lake district fixed the rate for molders in these yards at 72 1-2 cents per hour, eight hours to constitute a day's work. It went into effect May 22, and the men employed in the three Cleveland foundries will get back pay from April 1.

100 PER CENT UNION.

Philadelphia, June 8.—It is the proud boast of the employes and the officials at Cramp's ship yards that the plant is 100 per cent unionized. A new spirit has taken possession of the officials and employes in this big concern. The only interest any one in Cramp's has these stirring days is for maximum production. If the war can be won by the Cramp employes they have decided to win it.

WAGES ADVANCED $3.

Rochester, N. Y., June 8.—Bookbinders' Union, No. 86, has received an increase of $3 per week, with a five-months' agreement. This agreement is to expire with the agreement of the other printing trades November 1, 1918.

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UNION LABEL ON SHIPS.

Oakland, Cal., June 8.—Three of the ships recently launched in the inner harbor bore the label of the Boilermakers' union No. 233. Two of these ships were built by the Moore Shipbuilding company and the other at the Hanlon docks.

COOKS' UNION FORMED.

New Orleans, June 8.—A cooks' union has been formed and a wage scale of $[illegible] per month determined on. Members of the housewives' league and the club women are opposing the union and refusing to employ its members.

REVISIONS NECESSARY.

Chicago, June 8.—W. D. Mahon, president of the Amalgamated Association of Street and Electric Railway Employes, in the Union Leader, gives his reasons for advocating a revision of existing contracts where adequate wages are not paid, as follows:

"The street and electric railway workers of the United States are confronted with a very serious situation. They have always received a very low wage for their labor—scarcely enough to maintain the standard of American living, and since the enormous increase in the cost of living has taken place, this low wage has made it impossible for the street and electric railway men to maintain their families and live in a respectable manner. Therefore they have had to make requests upon the companies for a change in the scale of wages.

"In many of the local divisions of the association contracts have been made covering periods of from two to three years. These contracts were made before the enormous increase in cost of living had taken place, and at a time when no one could foresee what was coming Now since the enormous increase has come on, and the street and electric railway men have had to request that their wages be increased, some have shouted: 'Breaking your contracts, are you?'

"Now, it is not a question of breaking contracts. We have a reputation as good as any organization or business concern in living up to contracts, but conditions make it necessary to revise contracts. Busines concerns, as well as trade unions, find this necessary at times. In the changes of wages that we are asking, it is not a matter of striking or threatening to strike, but it is a matter of arbitration, or appealing to the government war board to consider the situation and to give us a fair deal. But it is so amusing when you hear criticism of the organizations of labor that are asking wage increases at this time, with the charge that they are breaking their agreements, when the fact is that almost every street and electric railway company in the United States is now asking that its rates of fare be increased. What is that but asking a change in their agreements with the cities and various municipalities? These franchises are contracts and nothing else, and the companies, on account of the high cost of everything, are compelled to ask that they be changed.

"So when the whole situation is looked at in an intelligent manner you can readily see that the street and electric railway men are not doing anything unreasonable or unfair, but are simply asking for the same consideration that the traction companies of the country are asking for—a living wage to meet the abnormal conditions brought about by the present war."

TEAMSTERS GET MORE PAY.

Tacoma, Wash., June 8.—A new wage scale, calling for a $1 increase a day and reducing the working hours from 10 to eight, has been put in force by the International Brotherhood of Teamsters and Chauffeurs, Local 313.

The new scale was negotiated with the Team Owners' association and includes practically 90 per cent of the union's class of work being done in this city. It runs from May 21, 1918, to March 7, 1919.

The first scale adopted calls for machinery truck drivers, $5 a day; truck drivers, $4.75 a day; furniture van drivers, $5 a day; drivers of freight vans hauling more than 5,000 pounds, $4.75 a day; express wagon drivers, $4.50 a day; fuel wagon drivers, $4.50 a day; building material drivers, $4.50 a day; grading and dump wagon drivers, $4.50 a day; Ford truck drivers, $3.75 a day; drivers of autos under one ton, $4.50 a day; drivers of autos one and one-half tons and up, $5 a day; stable men, $110 a month; small one-horse wagons, $3.50 a day; steady helpers, $4 a day; furniture packers, $5 a day.

The second scale calls for baggage wagon drivers, $105 a month; truck drivers of machines up to 1,500 pounds, $115 a month; taxi drivers, $100 a month.

INSULAR LABOR COMING.

New York, June 8.—Within the next few weeks the first consignment of Porto Rican laborers will be brought to this country to engage in construction work on government contracts. This action has been taken by the department of labor, through the United States employment service, to augment the unskilled labor supply of the country. The employment service has already made arrangements for the employment of 10,000 laborers on war work at Norfolk and Newport News. These laborers, who will be housed without cost and fed by the government commissary at a cost of 25 cents a meal, will receive 35 cents an hour, with time and a half for overtime work. It is claimed that 75,000 labores is available for such work.

INCREASE FOR POTTERS.

Atlantic City, N. J., June 8.—At a specially called conference for this city between representatives of the National Brotherhood of Operative Potters and the Sanitary Potters' association, an agreement was reached whereby the employes were granted an advance of 15 per cent. This added to the previous 10 per cent increase will be equivalent to a 25 per cent advance. It becomes effective the first pay day after June 1.

DRUG CLERKS IN LINE.

Spokane, Wash., June 8.—The retail drug clerks have formed a union with a charter from the Retail Clerks' International Protective association. The new union includes about 100 members.

Fresno, Cal., June 8.—The retail grocery clerks is a new union just formed and includes nearly all the clerks employed in that branch in this city.

CHANGED AFFILIATION.

Stockton, Cal., June 8.—The employes of the postoffice who composed the organization known as the Postoffice Employes' International association has merged with the National Federation of Postal Employers and will be hereafter known as Union No. 131, affiliated with the American Federation of Labor.

WANT 75 CENTS PER HOUR.

Jacksonville, Fla., June 8.—The Bricklayers' and Plasterers' unions, Nos. 2 and 11, have notified the contractors that on and after June their wages will be 75 cents per hour for Jacksonville and Duval county.

MONUMENT TO RIST.

Cincinnati, O., June 8.—At the last meeting of the central labor union a committee was appointed to make arrangements to collect funds for the erection of a monument to the memory of Frank Rist, late editor of the Chronicle.

All Must Make Increased Sacrifices to Win War

BY SAMUEL GOMPERS, IN THE AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR.

As it has become increasingly plain to all that our nation has entered upon a struggle that will test every resource, we have been studying how to concentrate our energies on essentials and avoid frittering them away upon the unnecessary. Different governmental agencies have endeavored to solve the problem—What are essential war industries? The problem is very closely akin to that which perplexes neutrals—What are munitions of war?

It is evident that no fixed lines of discrimination could be defined without injurious effects. A constructive method of achieving the same result is for each individual to so order his personal affairs and purchases as to set in action a compelling drift in the economic world toward only the necessaries—the reaction will release man power, materials, finances for war needs.

Our Republic, our people are at war. The institutions and ideals of free government are at stake. Every man, woman and child owes service. Some must serve at the front—in places of greatest danger. Those who remain at home where duty entails less personal danger, have work just as essential. We must work in war industries, contribute to their organization, or help assure them opportunity and resources.

The intricate organization of society and the lives of our people must be directed in furtherance of our paramount duty—winning the war. This must determine every personal decision and expenditure of money with a conscience mindful of the duty to those on the firing line.

Let us all make our lives simple, wholesome, vigorous.

We can forego luxuries for a time, be content with the primary necessaries of life, in order to save for the future our heritage of freedom and the things of the spirit.

During the time when we send our young men to the trenches, to live a life that grills flesh and nerve, let every man, woman and child who is privileged to remain in free America in physical safety, count it a freeman's duty to eat simple food and conserve for our army and our allies; to wear simple clothes, to avoid unnecessary or unwise expenditures, that we may give to our fighting men, the government, and have resources for the constructive work of the country.

This does not mean foolish penury or asceticism, but constructive, intelligent expenditure and saving—the establishment of habits of rational expenditure of money so as to accomplish a purpose and to get the greatest returns from the expenditure.

There are still many to whom this world cataclysm has so little meaning that they are still pursuing luxuries and self-indulgence.

If worthy of citizenship in a free country, no man or woman will dissipate our man-power and economic resources through purchases of things to merely gratify tastes or appearances, or what Professor Veblen has so fittingly termed "conspicuous waste" which gratifies a desire to demonstrate ability to live extravagantly.

This applies to all groups in society. All purchases should be governed by this one dominating thought, will they in any manner retard the winning of the war. Let us so direct the current of economic life as to permit no usage of man-power, materials or finances upon interests that do not contribute directly to winning the war—including the maintenance of civilian life.

Workers of America, you have more at stake than any other group. It is fitting that you take your part in economy to win the war.

Organize for constructive saving—saving for the cause of democracy and human equity. Make plain living, plain dressing and practical patriotism the outward manifestation of your patriotism and willingness to give service to the cause which has been the highest ideal of freemen of all ages.

SHIPYARD WORKERS ARE NOT "SLACKING"

Washington, June 8.—Secretary of Labor Wilson gave out the following statement today relative to the allegation that shipbuilding workmen are falling down on the job:

"My attention has been called to speeches alleged to have been made by Captain W. H. Stayton, U. S. N., retired, representing the Navy league, at various meetings of commercial bodies, in which he is quoted as saying that a man could drive four thousand rivets a day, but labor unions fix 75 as a day's work, and further that 'if these men cannot be persuaded to do better or be forced to speed up through public sentiment and other means, then they ought to be stood up against a wall and shot.' I have also been informed that numbers of people throughout the country in public and private speech have been asserting that on the Pacific coast men capable of driving 500 to 600 rivets per day are prescribed by labor bosses to 60 as a day's work; that workmen by the same authority are restricted to boring 60 holes per day in wooden ships; and that caulkers were limiting their work to 100 feet of caulking per day.

"In view of the seriousness of these allegations, I directed an investigation to be made on the Pacific coast, which is more completely unionized than any other shipbuilding section of the country, assigning James L. Hughes, formerly assistant commissioner of immigration at Philadelphia and at present an assistant in the employment service of the department, to make the survey. I am in receipt of the telegraphic reports which would indicate that there is no justification for the statements that labor is falling down on the job.

"These facts gathered as a result of scientific investigation demonstrate the patriotism and efficiency of the men engaged in shipbuilding operations and need no further comment from me."

CAR MEN'S PROGRESS.

Ottawa, Can., June 8.—The conciliation board found in favor of the street car men, granting an advance of 11 cents an hour for the second and third year men. The repairmen, machinists, carpenters, helpers, power plant employes, electricians and trackmen receive an advance of 10 cents an hour. Time and a half is awarded for overtime.

Cedar Rapids, Iowa, June 8.—The threatened strike of Division No. 638 was averted when the company affected presented a proposition to pay a minimum wage of 28 and a maximum of 35 cents an hour, to date from May 1, when the old contract expired.

Bloomington, Ill., June 8.—Negotiations between the representatives of Division No. 752 and the Bloomington and Normal Railway and Light Company terminated when the company agreed to pay the motormen and conductors 32 cents an hour for the first year, 34 for the next 36 months, and 36 cents thereafter.

TO BAR PIECEWORK.

Boston, June 8.—A resolution calling for the elimination of piecework and the substitution of week-work in the cloak and skirt-making industry of the United States and Canada was adopted by a large majority at the annual convention of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' union. The resolution will affect hundreds of thousands of needle workers employed in shops under the jurisdiction of the organization.

The delegates voted $500 for the Red Cross, to be taken out of the treasury of the international.

A resolution was adopted favoring the erection of a consumptives' hospital in New York city on ground already purchased for the purpose.

ADVANCE FOR TEAMSTERS.

Akron, O., June 8.—The newly organized union of teamsters has already made substantial progress, having increased the wages from $20 to $25 per week and secured the adjustment of other grievances they had previously been subjected to.

Eureka, Cal., June 8.—Finding it necessary to do something tangible to keep up with the progress of the times, the teamsters got together and completed a union and are preparing to secure some of the benefits that result from such action.

NEW PLUMBERS' UNION.

Burlington, Vt., June 8.—A union of plumbers, steam and gas fitters and helpers has been organized, including practically all the journeymen and helpers in the city. A new wage schedule was formulated and accepted by the boss plumbers which gives the men $26.50 and a 44-hour week.

Richwood, W. Va., June 8.—A union of plumbers, steam fitters and helpers has been organized here.

PACKERS FORM UNION.

Houston, Tex., June 8.—The employes of the Houston Packing company, about 150 in number, have formed a union including all the employes. A new wage agreement is now being prepared for presentation July 1.

WANT MORE PAY

Louisville, Ky., June 8.—Horseshoers' union No. 27 has submitted to the owners of the blacksmith shops a demand for a wage increase from [illegible] to $4 a day and a half holiday every Saturday with a full day's pay.

TO AMERICANIZE LABOR.

New York, June 8.—H. H. Wheaton, in speaking for Secretary of the Interior Lane, before the American Iron and Steel Institute, invited its co-operation in the plan for the "Americanization of industry" blocked out early in April at a conference between the secretary and the governors of most of the states. He informed the iron and steel men that Senator Hoke Smith would introduce two Americanzation bills, one for emergency and one embracing a more comprehensive scheme "in the interests of national unity."

These bills provide for the "education in the English language and the fundamental principles of the government and citizenship of the United States" of the 5,000,000 working men of this country who cannot now speak its tongue.

For ths year ending June 30, 1919, a fund of $5,000,000 is to be appropriated, for the next year $3,000,000, for the next year $4,000,000, and for each year thereafter $5,000,000. After the first year each state is to provide a sum equal to that apportioned by the nation to it on the basis of the number of men to be taught. The whole work is to be under the direction of the bureau of education.

The plan, as it is outlined in the bills, calls for one and a half hours in the class room for three days o week for six months. The co-operation of the iron and steel men is sought especially because they employ a majority of the men affected by the plan.

It is generally understood that a large majority of the un-Americanized employes of the iron and steel industry of the country was induced to come to this country for the purpose of keeping down wages and preventing the formation of unions in that industry.

MONUMENT AT LUDLOW.

Ludlow, Col., June 8.—A mgnificent monument was dedicated here May 30, by the United Mine Workers in honor of the 33 men, women and children who were killed by a detachment of the Colorado state militia on April 20, 1914. The militia were gunmen imported into the state by the Colorado Fuel and Iron company, a Rockefeller subsidiary.

The miners and their families had been evicted from their homes by the coal company and were living in tents when they were fired upon by the thugs, who afterwards burned the tents. The United Mine Workers later purchased the site of the tent colony and erected the monument.

At the base of the monument is the figure of a worker, upstanding and resolute, while beside him is the figure of a woman clutching a babe. On the monument is this inscription:

"In memory of the men, women and children who lost their lives in freedam's cause at Ludlow, Colorado, April 20, 1914. Erected by the United Mine Workers of America."

STANDARDIZATION OF WAGES.

Washington, June 8.—Standardization of wages of common and unskilled labor, to halt the enormous labor turnover that is slowing up war work throughout the country, was under consideration today by the department of labor.

Such a move is essential to equal distribution of the present labor supply, officials of the department say, because of varying wage rates and inequality of housing conditions.

Under the standardized wage plan, a carpenter, for instance, would get the same wage in California as in New Jersey. This would automatically take away the temptation to large groups of men to concentrate in one district at the expense of others.

WAREHOUSEMEN STRIKE.

San Francisco, June 8.—After carrying on negotiations for six weeks and not being able to reach an amicable understanding 700 members of the Warehousemen's and Cereal Workers' union No. 15877 went on strike to enforce their demands. Their action closed up all the warehouses in the city. A demand was made for an increase of the scale from $3 to $4 per day and a reduction of hours from nine to eight. Through the intercession of Federal Food Administrator Ralph P. Merritt an adjustment was reached whereby the men were conceded $4.50 per for a nine-hour day.

GRANTED $3 ADVANCE.

Kansas City, Mo., June 8.—After several conferences between representatives of the Brewery Workers' unions and the brewers an agreement was arrived at whereby the workers are to receive a flat wage increase of 18 per cent. This agreement which is to be in effect from May 1, 1918, to May 1, 1920, includes all the organized workers in the employ of the breweries. The stationary firemen secured an increase of 28 per cent.

ADVANCE OF $3 PER WEEK.

Boston, June 8.—The Leather Handlers' union presented a scale to the employers demanding an increase of $4 per week. Conferences followed and a compromise was reached whereby the union was conceded an advance of $3, bringing the wages up to $23 per week. When the union was formed in 1911 the weekly wage rate was $12.

TO STUDY CO-OPERATION.

Madison, Wis., June 8.—The Federated trades council has appointed a special committee to "study the various schemes for co-operative stores and other forms of consumers' enterprises which tend to reducing the prices of goods to the consumer."

CARPENTERS MAKE GAINS.

Indianapolis, June 8.—General Secretary Frank Duffy of the Brotherhood of Carpenters reports the following wage increase by affiliated unions:

Fremont, Neb., increase from 45 to 50 cents until October 1, 1918; 55 cents per hour and eight hour day on April 1, 1919. Newark, N. J., 65 to 75 cents. Lawrence, Mass., 50 to 70 cents. Newburyport, Mass., 43¾ to 50 cents. Beaumont, Texas, 48 to 60 cents. Brazil, Ind., 56¼ to 65 cents. Cape Girardeau, Mo., 37½ to 45 cents. Red Wink, Minn., 40 to 45 cents. Livingston, Mont., 62½ to 75 cents. Red Lodge, Mont., 75 to 87½ cents. Tiffin, Ohio, 45 to 50 cents. Kansas City, Mo. (boxmakers), 39 to 45 cents. Ironwood, Mich., 50 to 56 cents. Indiana, Pa., 40 to 60 cents. Chattanooga, Tenn., 45 to 55 cents. Roanoke, Va., and Hope, Ark., 40 to 50 cents. Ottawa, Ont., and Welland, Ont., Can., and Peru, Ind., 45 to 55 cents. East Liverpool, Ohio, 56¼ to 75 cents. Nashua, N. H., 45 to 60 cents. Sidney, Neb., 60 to 75 cents. New York, N. Y. (machine hands and wood turners), 41 to 56¼ cents. Uniontown, Pa., 56¼ to 75 cents. Marshalltown, Iowa, 57½ to 60 cents. Bristol, Pa., 62½ to 70 cents. Skowhegan, Pa., 40½ to 50 cents. Elwood City, Pa., 62½ to 75 cents. Ardmore, Pa., 60 to 70 cents. Denton, Tex., 50 to 62½ cents. Waterbury, Conn., 43¾ to 75 cents. Manitowoc, Wis., 43 to 55 cents.

MANY ANZACS UNIONISTS.

Seattle, Wash., June 8.—Ex-Premier Crawford Vaughan, of Australia, said that eight per cent of the total population of Australia have enlisted, and of these 150,000 were members of trades unions, of which 45,000 have died for liberty. "We are determined that they shall not have died in vain," he cried, and was cheered to the echo.

"How blessed is freedom; how impossible is autocracy. The political freedom of Australia is patterned upon your own United States constitution. We did it in 1900 at our constitutional convention. Our flag has its six stars, representing our six states. You won for us our freedom when you fought against a Prussian king called George III when he attempted to force his Prussian ideas and his hired Prussian troops upon you. You conferred the principles of self government upon a world. You taught Great Britain that an empire must be held together by the bonds of freedom, not by the bonds of force."

WAR INDUSTRIES BOARD.

Washington, June 8.—President Wilson has issued the following executive order making the war industries board an executive agency effective May 28:

"I hereby establish the war industries board as a separate administrative agency to act for me and under my direction. This is the board which was originally formed by, and subsidiary to, the council of national defense under the provisions of 'An act making appropriations for the support of the army for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1917, and for other purposes,' approved August 29, 1916.

"The functions, duties, and powers of the war industries board, as outlined in my letter of March 4, 1918, to Bernard M. Baruch, Esq., its chairman, shall be and hereby are continued in full force and effect."

SUBSTANTIAL INCREASE.

Wheeling, W. Va., June 8.—An agreement has been reached between a committee representing the Farmaco Workers' Federal union No. 15,742, A. F. of L., and the general manager of the Sterling Products company that gives to workers an increase in wages that ranges from $3 to $4.50 per week, an eight-hour day, time and a half for over time, double time for Sundays and holidays and a week's vacation on pay. All grievances are to be taken up with the manager and a committee representing the union. A senority clause was agreed upon. The scales provides for $8 per week for new girls; $8.50 for experienced girls; $10.50 for foreladies, and $80 a month for men.

RAPID PROGRESS.

Chicago, June 8.—Shipping Clerks and Helpers' union No. 15,882, A. F. of L., has been making rapid progress since its organization and now has a membership of nearly 1,200 and has secured a union shop agreement with the dairy companies, which become effective June 1. The agreements are the union shop, a nine-hour day, a minimum wage of $19 with a $1 increase for those now receiving $19 or more, one week's vacation with pay, the right of the man to his job, and one week's notice.

TO JOIN THE ENGINEERS.

Newark, N. J., June 8.—The old association of public janitors has ceased to exist, having disbanded, and now seeks a charter from the International Association of Steam and Operating Engineers under the title of Public School Janitors' and Engineers' union, and includes 75 per cent of that class of men employed by the public schools of the city.

FIRE FIGHTERS UNITE.

St. Joseph, Mo., June 8.—The fire fighters of this city have formed a union and made application to the International Association of Fire Fighters, with headquarters in Washington, D. C., for a charter. The International is affiliated with the A. F. of L., and has local branches in many of the leading cities of the United States.

ARIZONA'S GOVERNOR SCORES BISBEE MOB

Phoenix, Ariz., June 8.—In his message to the state legislature, Governor Hunt used plain language in expressing his opinion of the man who deported 1,200 workers at Bisbee last year. The chief executive declared that the shame of this outrage has been rehearsed in public and private gatherings throughout the world, even in darkest Russia:

"Picture the spectacle afforded by those Bisbee deportations on the 12th of last July," he said.

"A mob—I use the word advisedly—a mob of nearly two thousand men—directed by county authorities whose sworn duty it was to suppress such lawlessness—organized, not as mobs are want to do, under the spur of justifiable indignation or self-righteous anger, but with Indian-like stealth, under the cover of darkness, calmly, premeditatedly, deliberately, and swooped down at dawn upon the homes of unsuspecting, unoffending miners who had committed no violence, nay more, who had threatened no violence, but who had every lawful reason to feel secure as citizens under the guarantees vouchsafed by the constitution of the United States and the state of Arizona. By sheer force of arms this conscienceless mob of copper company thugs violated, at one and the same time, the sacred tenets of our republic and the sanctity of the American home."

"With all of the brutal abandon of the unconscionable Hun, they dragged husbands out of their wives' embrace, ruthlessly disengaged the arms of little, terrified children from about their father's necks, thrust mothers and sons apart, and offered coarse insults to the wives and daughters of honest workingmen. In this execrable manner, without a vestige of justification or legality, nearly twelve hundred unarmed workingmen were driven at the point of a gun from their homes to the public square, later to be herded, like so many beasts of the field, into freight cars and transported into the deserts of an adjoining state.

"During that enforced journey, the hapless victims of copper company vengence were virtually without food or drink, notwithstanding the heat of an Arizona summer, and stood so long in one position on the floor of jolting cars that their feet were sore and bleeding from the ordeal. And, as can be readily imagined, the realization that their mothers, wives and daughters were left in Bisbee at the mercy of their ruffian captors did not serve to assuage their anguish."

NEW RELATIONS PREDICTED.

Atlantic City, N. J., June 8.—The relations between capital and labor will undergo rapid and radical changes during the period of the war, according to Governor Harrington of Maryland, who, in an address to 300 Maryland bankers, declared amid cheers that America needed the war to free it from the shackles of classism. Out of the chaos of war will come almost a new world, he predicted.

"The nobility of labor will be the new creed," said Governor Harrington. "Labor and capital will be partners in a new business and government will exist for the equal enjoyment and protection of us all.

"Our country needed this war to awaken the latent spirit of good will and brotherhood underlying the surface. There is not a banker in the country who has not felt the deeper thrill of happiness or joy of living during the last year of service than he has ever felt during his whole life before."

DESTROYER IN 17½ DAYS.

Washington, June 8.—The United States destroyer Ward was successfully launched at the Mare Islands navy yard, Cal., 17½ days after her keel was laid. The nearest approach to this record was the launching of a 335-foot cargo vessel by the New York Shipbuilding company of Camden, N. J., in 27 days.

The record was accomplished as the result of a new system of coordinated effort, 400 men being engaged night and day in bringing the vessel to a state of 84 per cent completion. It was hoped the vessel would be completed within a month of the date when the keel was laid.

AGREEMENT SIGNED.

Rochester, N. Y., June 8.—The following agreement has been signed with Barbers' Local union No. 246: $16 week and 60 per cent over $22. Shops to open at 8 a. m. and close at 7:30 p. m.; Saturday at 9:30 p. m. Close on all legal holidays, except when a holiday falls on Saturday or Monday, when the shops will be open from 8 a. m. till 11 a. m., and remain open the night before until 9 p. m.

GET $1.20 INCREASE.

Fresno, Cal., June 8.—Electrical Workers' union No. 100 has been granted an increase of $1.20 per day. The new agreement goes into effect immediately. The old wage was $6 per day and the new one calls for $7.20. The increase was secured without any trouble, the employers conceding that the advancing prices of the necessaries of life justified the demands asked for.

NEW RETAIL CLERKS UNION.

Mobile, Ala., June 8.—The shoe, grocery, department store men and lady clerks to the number of 200 have been organized into a union with a charter from the Retail Clerks' International Protective association, the charter number being [illegible].

LET US ALL BE AMERICANS.

San Francisco, June 8.—The Labor Clarion in commenting on the growth and propagation of free democracy, says:

"While in the past when hundreds of thousands of foreigners were swarming into the country each month little or nothing was done to instill in their minds American principles and ideals, just now the melting pot is rapidly Americanizing the aliens who come here and decide to cast their lot with the descendants of those who established this government and its institutions. The Americanizing process is so rapid that almost everywhere one may discover unity in aims and ideals where heretofore there was found extreme difference and even opposition. The labor movement has always been a strong influence in this direction, and the labor press is now working assiduously to hasten this amalganation of the differing hybrid elements entering into our social and economic life. To make the change still more effective it would be a good thing if all would discard the imported terminology and classifications that arose out of conditions foreign to us and which have no permanent reason for propagation in a free democracy. The hyphenated societies that have in the past been fostered and promoted in all sections of the country have been a hindrance to thorough Americanization. Let the labor press discard the German labor philosophy and terms that array the elements of the nation into the proletariat and the bourgeoise. In this country of ours there should be no proletarians, as every one has the right and the opportunity to exercise all the privileges pertaining to sovereignty and citizenship and all are on equal footing so far as rights and privileges are concerned. Therefore we get exactly the kind of government our intelligence prompts us to vote for."

BARBERS ASK MORE PAY.

New Haven, Conn., June 8.—Journeymen Barbers' union, No. 215, has adopted a new working schedule which calls for shorter hours, half day off each week, and $15 per week and 50 per cent over $23. For a single day's work, except Saturday, $3. The price of honing razors has been advanced to 50 cents, and shaves to 20 cents and hair cuts to 35 cents.

Peoria, Ill., June 8.—The Journeymen Barbers union has put into effect a new scale which calls for $18 per week and 60 per cent over $27. The new prices have resulted in bringing in nearly all nonunion shops.

Kansas City, June 8.—The boss barbers have signed a new scale with Journeymen Barbers' union that fixes rates at the following figures: Instead of paying 60 per cent over $28 it was agreed that the rates would be the same per centage for all over $30.

Independence, Mo., June 8.—Journeymen Barbers' union, No. 258, has just been completed.

Toledo, O., June 8.—After July 1 the members of the Journeymen Barbers union, No. 5, will receive a flat salary of $25 per week of 56 hours, with time and one-half for over time where they are required to work during the meal hours, or at night when customers are in the shop. Shaves have been advanced to 20 cents and hair cuts to 50 cents.

DISPUTES ADJUSTED.

Washington, June 8.—The department of labor announces the settlement of 23 industrial disputes during the week ending May 25, 1918. Although the number of strikes is increased, they are of less importance in the aggregate than during previous weeks, the only important one being a strike of teamsters and truck drivers in Chicago, Ill., which involved 5,000 men.

Washington, June 8.—The Department of Labor reports the settlement of 32 industrial disputes, of which 17 were controversies, 11 strikes, and 4 threatened strikes. This is the largest number of controversies settled during any one week since the first of the year. While the number was larger, however, the disputes themselves were of lesser importance. No serious strikes occurred in any war industry, and the only large strike in any industry was that of cigar makers in Tampa, Fla., involving 14,000 men.

RULED OFF NIGHT CARS.

Oakland, Cal., June 8.—That women shall not be employed on night runs and for no more than eight hours on street cars as conductors and motorwomen, is the decision of the Wisconsin industrial commission.

The decison is rendered in answer to the complaint of the state federation of labor against employing women on street cars because of the effect of such work on the health of women, and, consequently, on the health of the future race.

Members of the consumers' league also protested against night employment of women on cars. The complaints were registered in connection with the employment of women on street cars in Kenosha.

TOTAL SHIPS FOR THE WEEK.

Washington, June 8.—Ten steel vessels, totaling 63,456 tons, were completed for the shipping board in the week ending May 25. There were 18 launchings during the week of a total tonnage of 169,196.

Fifteen of the launchings were steel ships and three wooden, making launchings for the month, 46 ships, 39 of which are steel.

PROGRESS IN TEXAS.

Galveston, Tex., June 8.—The oil refinery workers have completed a new union composing 100 members. Reports from Texas City conveys the information that similar action was taken by the oil refiners of that city. The bakers and soda water dispensers of Galveston also have pursued a similar course.

GET EIGHT HOURS A DAY.

Boston, June 8.—More than [illegible] members of Glass Bevelers and Polishers No. 704, who have been on strike for two weeks, returned to work, their demands having been adjusted. The men, who had been working [illegible] hours a week, are granted an eight-hour day, 44-hours a week basis, with a virtual increase of [illegible] per week.

WAGES ADVANCED 15%.

Duluth, Minn., June 8.—According to a decision of the state arbitration board the Cabinet Makers' and Millmen's union was granted an advance of [illegible] per cent in wages and a [illegible]

CHILD LABOR LAW DECLARED INVALID

Washington, June 8.—The federal child labor law of 1916 forbidding interstate shipments of products of child labor has been declared unconstitutional and invalid by a vote of five to four by the supreme court. The law was declared unconstitutional by the federal district court in North Carolina and restraining orders to prevent its enforcement issued by the court. The government appealed the decision to the supreme court.

The five justices who signed the majority opinion were Chief Justice White, and Justices Day, McReynolds, Vandeventer and Pitney.

In deciding the case, Justice Day, who rendered the opinion, said:

"Over interstate transportation or its incidents, the regulatory power of congress is ample, but the production of articles intended for interstate commerce is a matter of local regulation.

"If it were otherwise, all manufacture intended for interstate shipment would be brought under federal control to the practical exclusion of the authority of the states, a result certainly not contemplated by the framers of the constitution when they vested in congress the authority to regulate commerce among the states.

"That there should be limitations upon the right to employ children in mines and factories in the interest of their own and the public welfare, all will admit."

In the dissenting opinion, in which Justices McKenna, Brandeis and Clark concurred, Justice Holmes declared enactment of the law came clearly within the powers of congress.

"The act does not meddle with anything belonging to the states," said Justice Holmes. "They may regulate their internal affairs and their domestic commerce as they like. But when they seek to send their products across the state line they are no longer within their rights. If there were no constitution and no congress their power to cross the line would depend upon their neighbors. Under the constitution such commerce belongs not to the states, but to congress to regulate. It may carry out its views of public policy whatever indirect effect they may have upon the activities of the state.

"The public policy of the United States is shaped with a view to the benefit of the naiton as a whole. The national welfare, as understood by congress, may require a different attitude within its sphere from that of some self-seeking state. It seems to me entirely constitutional for congress to enforce its understanding by all the means at its command."

The pronounced disapproval of the decision of the court on the child labor law is indicated by a bill prepared by Senator Owen. It is to be identical with the measure declared invalid, except that it contains provisions that only congress and the people shall have authority to pass on the validity of a law. Any judge denying the bill's constitutionality would be compelled to resign, the proposed measure provides. Many of those who have made a critical examination of the action of the court express the opinion that many of the labor measures now pending in congress will have to be abandoned.

WANT A MINIMUM WAGE.

Madison, Wis., June 8.—A fight to secure a minimum wage of $12.50 a week for women and minors in Wisconsin was opened before the Wisconsin industrial commission this week with the filing of a petition for the fixing of this wage. The petition is filed in the name of the Wisconsin federation of labor, the consumers' league of Wisconsin and central council of social agencies, Milwaukee.

Four years ago an investigation was made by the Wisconsin industrial commission and others, and it was found that $9.50 would then be a living wage for women and minors in Milwaukee. No order was issued, because the validity of the law was then being tested in a case from the state of Oregon. The United States supreme court, over a year ago sustained the validity of the law. Nevertheless the Wisconsin industrial commission has made no effort to put a living wage into effect.

NEW SCALES FOR PRINTERS.

Sioux City, Io., June 8.—The new scale for day work calls for $27 and $30 for night work.

Tulsa, Okla., June 8.—The boys call it the new war scale and it calls for $32 and $35, respectively, for day and night work.

Richmond, Va., June 8.—As a result of several conferences between the representatives of Typographical union and the proprietors of the various printing offices every plant will hereafter be run on an eight-hour basis. This applies to the nonunion as well as the union establishments. There will also be an increase in wages amounting to $5 per week for job men and $6 for machine men.

8 HOURS HERE TO STAY.

Centralia, Wash., June 8.—In addressing the National Lumbermen's association, Judge L. C. Boyle, attorney for the association, said:

"I want to tell you that, just as sure as you hear the sound of my voice, the eight-hour day is here to stay, and that it will ultimately attach itself to the entire lumbering industry. It is going to become a part of our social and industrial system, just as much as the air that we breathe and the water that we drink."

METAL WORKERS WIN STRIKE.

Toronto, Can., June 8.—Sheet Metal Workers' union No. 30 succeeded in securing a substantial victory after being on strike for two weeks. The battle resulted in establishing a minimum wage rate of 60 cents per hour, and bringing into the union nearly all the nonunion men in the city, making the organization stronger than ever in its history.

BERRY FOR GOVERNOR.

Memphis, Tenn., June 8.—The trades and labor council is taking an active interest in promoting the candidacy of George L. Berry, president of the International Pressmen's union, for governor. It has a committee actively engaged in sending out letters to all central bodies and local unions in the state requesting immediate action and vigorous assistance.

NEW SCALE IN EFFECT.

Chattanooga, Tenn., June 8.—A new scale which calls for [illegible] cents an hour, time and a half for [illegible] and double time for Sundays and [illegible] has been [illegible]